

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the specification, without prejudice as follows wherein bolding and underlining indicates added material and strikethroughs indicate deleted material:

Amendments to heading and first paragraph of page 2 (lines 1-2):

Cross-Reference to Related Applications Citation of Provisional Application

This application for patent is **a Rule 53(b) continuation application based upon and claiming priority from nonprovisional U.S. patent application Serial No. 09/826,209, which is a non-provisional application based upon and** claiming the priority of U.S. provisional application for patent Serial Number 60/194,922 filed April 4, 2000.

Amendments to second full paragraph of page 16 (lines 5-11):

As depicted in FIGS. 1A, 1B, 1C, one embodiment of the invention is a wheeled platform 100 in which first and second sets 102, 104 of wheel elements are rotatably attached, respectively, to first and second sides 106, 108 (in this case, left and right, or port and starboard sides) of a body or chassis 110, wherein a portion of at least one wheel element 112 overlaps a portion of at least one other wheel element 114 in the same set of wheel elements 102, 104 with the flipper portion **130** ~~125~~ in the forward position (see FIG. 1C).

Amendments to third full paragraph of page 16 (lines 12-18):

Thus, for example, in the first or port set 102 of wheel elements 112, 114, 116, 118, wheel element 114 overlaps wheel element 112; wheel element 116 overlaps wheel element 114; and wheel element 116 overlaps wheel element 118 with the flipper portion **130** ~~125~~ in the forward position (see FIG. 1C; ~~see also FIG. 1A~~). Similarly, in the second or starboard set 104 of wheel elements 120, 122, 124, 126, wheel element 122 overlaps wheel element 120; wheel element 124 overlaps wheel element 122; and wheel element 124 overlaps wheel element 126 (see FIG. 1C; see also FIG. 1A).

Amendments to first full paragraph of page 19 (lines 4-15):

In certain embodiments, the flipper is designed as to provide for increased stability at various angles of deployment. In FIG. 3, for example, with the flipper 130 ~~425~~ in a stowed position, the center of gravity of the entire device preferably should be placed as close as possible over the center of wheel elements 116, 124. Such a configuration minimizes the energy needed to propel the wheeled platform. Likewise, the flipper 130 ~~425~~ should be weighted such that when the flipper 130 ~~425~~ is deployed in a forward position (see FIG. 1C), the center of gravity is moved substantially forward. This allows for greater stability over certain terrain, such as stairs and the like. In a preferred embodiment, the batteries for the wheeled platform are arranged in the flipper 130 ~~425~~ to allow for this movement of the center of gravity. One of skill in the art will recognize that the need to control the center of gravity may or may not be necessary, depending upon the size of the wheels and the expected use of the platform.

Amendments to first full paragraph of page 21 (lines 12-16):

More particularly, as show in FIG. 1A, drive module 230 is coupled to the first set of wheels 102; drive module 231 is coupled to the second set of wheels 104; and drive module 134 is coupled to the flipper portion 130 ~~425~~, to raise and lower the flipper portion 130 ~~425~~ as required. Each module 230, 231, 134 includes a drive motor or element and a corresponding control element.

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

The attached two sheets of drawings include changes to FIGS. 1A, 1B, and 3. These two sheets, which include FIGS. 1A, 1B, 1C, and 3, replace the original sheets.

<u>Claim Number</u>	<u>Original Application</u> <u>04 Apr 2001</u>	<u>Preliminary Amendment</u> <u>30 Aug 2002</u>	<u>Response to First Office Action</u>		<u>Rule 116 Amendment</u>		<u>Continuation Application</u>
1	X	W	---	\	CX	/	1
2	X	W	---	\	CX	/	2
3	X	W	---	\	CX	/	3
4	X	W	---	\	CX	/	4
5	X	W	---	\	CX	/	5
6	X	W	---	\	CX	/	6
7	X	W	---	\	CX	/	7
8	X	W	---	\	CX	/	8
9	X	W	---	\	CX	/	9
10	X	W	---	\	CX	/	10
11	X	W	---	\	CX	/	11
12	X	W	---	\	CX	/	12
13	X	W	---	\	CX	/	13
14	X	W	---	\	CX	/	14
15	X	W	---	\	CX	/	15
16	X	W	---	\	CX	/	16
17	X	W	---	\	CX	/	17
18	X	W	---	\	CX	/	18
19	X	W	---	\	CX	/	19
20	X	W	---	\	CX	/	20
21	X	AMENDED	AMENDED	\	CX	/	32
22	X	O	O	\	CX	/	33
23	X	AMENDED	<i>Canceled</i>	\	---	/	---
24	X	AMENDED	AMENDED	\	PENDING	/	N/A
25	X	AMENDED	PAM	\	CX	/	34
26	X	AMENDED	PAM	\	CX	/	35
27	X	AMENDED	PAM	\	CX	/	36
28	X	AMENDED	PAM	\	CX	/	37
29	X	<i>CANCELED</i>	---	\	---	/	---
30	X	<i>CANCELED</i>	---	\	---	/	---
31	X	AMENDED	AMENDED	\	CX	/	38
32	X	O	AMENDED	\	CX	/	39
33	X	O	AMENDED	\	CX	/	40
34	X	O	AMENDED	\	CX	/	41
35	X	AMENDED	PAM	\	CX	/	42
36	X	O	AMENDED	\	CX	/	43
37	X	O	AMENDED	\	CX	/	44
38	X	O	O	\	CX	/	45
39	X	O	O	\	CX	/	46

40	X	O	O	\	CX	/	47
41	X	O	O	\	CX	/	48
42	X	AMENDED	PAM	\	CX	/	49
43	X	O	O	\	CX	/	50
44	X	O	O	\	CX	/	51
45	X	O	O	\	CX	/	52
46	X	O	AMENDED	\	CX	/	53
47	X	W	---	\	CX	/	21
48	X	W	---	\	CX	/	22
49	X	W	---	\	CX	/	23
50	X	W	---	\	CX	/	24
51	X	W	---	\	CX	/	25
52	X	W	---	\	CX	/	26
53	X	W	---	\	CX	/	27
54	X	W	---	\	CX	/	28
55	X	W	---	\	CX	/	29
56	X	W	---	\	CX	/	30
57	X	W	---	\	CX	/	31
58	X	AMENDED	AMENDED	\	PENDING	/	N/A
59	X	<i>CANCELED</i>	---	\	---	/	---
60	X	AMENDED	PAM	\	PENDING	/	N/A
61	X	AMENDED	PAM	\	PENDING	/	N/A
62	X	AMENDED	PAM	\	PENDING	/	N/A
63	X	AMENDED	AMENDED	\	PENDING	/	N/A
64	X	AMENDED	PAM	\	PENDING	/	N/A
65	X	AMENDED	<i>CANCELED</i>	\	---	/	---
66	X	AMENDED	PAM	\	PENDING	/	N/A
67	X	AMENDED	PAM	\	CX	/	---
68	X	AMENDED	PAM	\	PENDING	/	N/A
69	X	<i>CANCELED</i>	---	\	---	/	---
70	X	AMENDED	AMENDED	\	PENDING	/	N/A
71	X	AMENDED	PAM	\	PENDING	/	N/A
72	X	AMENDED	AMENDED	\	PENDING	/	N/A
73		AMENDED	PAM	\	PENDING	/	N/A
74		NEW	PADD	\	CX	/	54
75		NEW	PADD	\	CX	/	55
76		NEW	PADD	\	CX	/	56
77		NEW	PADD	\	PENDING	/	N/A
78		NEW	PADD	\	PENDING	/	N/A
79		NEW	PADD	\	PENDING	/	N/A

LEGEND:

X = Application Serial No. 09/825,209 as originally filed

W = Withdrawn from consideration (without traverse)

CX = Canceled in Rule 116 Amendment filed in connection with pending U.S. patent application Serial No. 09/826,209

O = Claim as originally filed in U.S. patent application Serial No. 09/826,209

PAM = Previously amended during prosecution of U.S. patent application Serial No. 09/826,209

PADD = Previously added during prosecution of U.S. patent application Serial No. 09/826,209

PENDING = Claims, as amended, that are being prosecuted in the Rule 116 Amendment filed concurrently with the Rule 53(b) continuation application